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## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- A method of performing a pipelined arithmetic function comprising
   the steps of:
  - a) receiving two N-bit operands into each of a plurality of adder elements in separate pipelines;
  - b) performing an add operation in each of said plurality of adder elements wherein a first N-bit result and a first carry bit is output from each of said adder elements;
  - c) receiving said first N-bit result from each of said adder elements into a respective N-bit result register and receiving said first carry bit from each of said adder elements into a respective carry bit register;
  - d) outputting from an incrementor in one of said pipelines, a second N-bit result and a second carry bit from the combination of a first result from a first of said N-bit result registers, a first carry bit from a first of said carry bit registers, and a first carry bit from a second of said carry bit registers from a second of said pipelines; and
- e) supplying a final result being a combination of said second N-bit result from said incrementor, said second carry bit from said incrementor, and said first N-bit result from a second N-bit result register in said second pipeline.

- 2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said N-bit result registers are single width registers.
- 3. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said carry bit registersare single bit registers.
  - 4. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein step c) further comprises respectively receiving said first N-bit result into a plurality of single width N-bit registers.
  - 5. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein step c) further comprises respectively receiving said first carry bit into a plurality of single bit registers.
  - 6. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein step d) further comprises respectively receiving said second N-bit result into a plurality of single width N-bit registers.
- 7. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein step d) further20 comprises receiving said second carry bit into a plurality of single bit registers.
  - 8. A pipelined adder/subtractor comprising:

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- a) a plurality of adder elements coupled to a plurality of input busses and operable to perform add/subtract operations upon a pair of N-bit operands received from said input busses and storing an N-bit result;
- b) a carry bit register coupled to each of said adder elements and for receiving a carry bit from said adder element;
  - c) an incrementor coupled to a first of said adder elements, a first of said carry bit registers, and a second of said carry bit registers, said incrementor having an N-bit result output and a carry bit output; and
  - d) an output bus coupled to said N-bit result output of said incrementor, said carry bit output of said incrementor, and a second of said incrementor elements.
  - 9. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 8, wherein said plurality of adder elements store said N-bit results in respective single width registers.
  - 10. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 8, wherein said carry bit registers are single bit registers.
- The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 8, further comprising a
   plurality of N-bit registers for respectively receiving said first N-bit result from said plurality of adder elements.

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- 12. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 11, wherein said plurality of N-bit registers are single width registers.
- The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 8, further comprising a
   plurality of N-bit registers for respectively receiving said second N-bit result from said second N-bit output of said incrementor.
  - 14. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 13, wherein said plurality of N-bit registers are single width registers.
  - 15. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 8, further comprising a plurality of said carry bit registers for respectively receiving said carry bits from said adder elements and said incrementor.
    - 16. A multistage adder/subtractor circuit comprising:
  - a) a plurality of pipelines connected to a plurality of input busses,
     each of said pipelines being divided into clock regulated stages and having in its
     first stage an adder element comprising:

an adder for receiving a pair of N-bit operands and outputting a first N-bit result and a first single bit carry; and

a single width N-bit register for receiving said first N-bit result from said adder;

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and at least one of said pipelines comprising, in a stage
subsequent to said adder element stage, an incrementor element comprising:
an incrementor for receiving one of said first N-bit results
and two of said first single bit carries and outputting a second N-bit result and a
second single bit carry; and

a single width N-bit register for receiving said second N-bit result;

- b) a plurality of single bit registers for receiving said carry bits; and
- c) an output bus connected to said pipelines for supplying a final result being a combination of said first N-bit result, said second N-bit result, and said second single bit carry.
- 17. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 18, further comprising a plurality of single width N-bit registers for respectively receiving said first result from said plurality of adder elements.
- 18. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 18, further comprising a plurality of single width N-bit registers for respectively receiving said second result from said incrementor elements.

19. The pipelined adder/subtractor of Claim 18, further comprising a plurality of said carry bit registers respectively receive said carry bits from said adder elements and said incrementor elements.

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